

Summarized Results of the Public Opinion Survey on the "Public's View on Current Cross-Strait Relations"

(January 11~13, 2019)

- Over 70% of the public disapprove mainland China's "one country, two systems" position, which treats Taiwan as a local government and special administrative region and denies the existence of the government of the Republic of China (ROC) (75.4%); 74.3% do not accept the "one China (i.e., People's Republic of China) principle" and "1992 Consensus" which leaves no room for the existence of the ROC; and 77.2% disapprove mainland China's refusal to renounce the use of force against Taiwan.
- Over 70% of the public support President Tsai Ing-wen's proposed "four musts" for the development of cross-Strait relations (76.1%) and approve the establishment of a three-part security network in order to "fight for people's livelihoods, protect democracy, and safeguard sovereignty" (75.2%). Additionally, 90% of the public support the position that all sectors should protect the nation's overall security interests when promoting economic development (90.1%).
- 80% of the public support the position that "political consultations between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait should be conducted on a government-to-government basis and must be authorized and monitored by the people of Taiwan" (81.4%), and approve the statement that, "if the two sides of the Taiwan Strait want to conduct political consultations and sign agreements, the government should have more rigorous and comprehensive legislation in place" (83.1%).
- Nearly 90% of the public support the position that Taiwan's future and the development of cross-Strait relations must be decided by the 23 million people of Taiwan (89.3%); more than 80% of the public think that mainland China should pragmatically face the ROC and respect Taiwan's identity, in which would be beneficial to the long-term development of cross-Strait relations (86.7%).

I. Survey Background and Methods

In order to understand the views of the Taiwanese people on issues related to cross-Strait relations, the Mainland Affairs Council commissioned Taiwan Real Survey Co., Ltd. to conduct telephone interviews with adults, aged 20 and over, in the Taiwan Area from January

11 to 13, 2019. A total of 1,078 valid samples were collected, with a 95% confidence level and a sampling error of plus and minus 2.98%.

II. Major Findings

(1) Views on "one country, two systems" and the "1992 Consensus"

Over 70% of the public disapprove mainland China's "one country, two systems," which treats Taiwan as a local government and special administrative region under mainland China's rule, and deny the existence of the ROC government (75.4%). Also, more than 60% of the public support President Tsai's statement that Taiwan will never accept the "one country, two systems" (66%) and the "1992 Consensus" defined by the Beijing authorities as "one China" (61.5%). In fact, over 70% of the public do not accept the "one China (i.e. People's Republic of China) principle" and a "1992 Consensus" which leave no room for the existence of the ROC (74.3%); and more than 60% of the Taiwanese people do not identify with the "1992 Consensus" advocated by Xi Jinping, namely that "the two sides belong to one China and should work together for national unification" (64.8%). Additionally, more than half of the respondents think there is no "1992 Consensus" between the two sides across the Taiwan Strait (50.6%).

(2) Views on the government's cross-Strait policy

Over 70% of the public support President Tsai's proposed "four musts" for the development of cross-Strait relations (76.1%) and approve the establishment of a three-part security network in order to "fight for livelihoods, protect democracy and safeguard sovereignty" (75.2%). More than 90% of the public support the government's position that all sectors should protect the nation's overall security interests when promoting economic development (90.1%) and that Taiwan's future and the development of cross-Strait relations must be decided by the 23 million people of Taiwan (89.3%). More than 80% agree with the government's claim that mainland China should pragmatically face the ROC and respect Taiwan's identity, in which it would be beneficial to the long-term development of cross-Strait relations (86.7%).

(3) Views on cross-Strait political consultations and mainland China's refusal to renounce the use of force against Taiwan

80% of the public support the position that "political consultations between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait should be conducted on a government-to-government basis and must be authorized and monitored by the people of Taiwan" (81.4%). A similar percentage approve the statement that, "if the two sides of the Strait want to conduct political consultations and sign agreements, the government should have more rigorous and comprehensive legislation in place" (83.1%). Moreover, 50% of the respondents disapprove mainland China's avoidance of official dialogue in promoting unification and "one country, two systems" formula for Taiwan and suggestion of a political dialogue with some political parties and individuals in Taiwan (53.3%). In addition, over 70% of the public do not accept Xi Jinping's emphasis on refusing to renounce the use of force against Taiwan, as well as the numerous military threats against Taiwan over the years (77.2%).